

AMENDMENTS IN THE CLAIMS:

The listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of the claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently amended) A connection comprising:

a masonry support structure and a fastener received in said masonry support structure, said fastener comprising;

head means comprising a ~~generally planar~~ engagement surface and drive means for receiving an applied torque;

a shank axially extending from said head means at a proximal end to a distal end terminating at a tip, said shank comprising a proximal portion defining a first diameter adjacent said shank proximal end and a distal portion having a second diameter less than said first diameter adjacent said shank distal end, a first thread extending helically along a portion of said proximal portion and a second thread extending helically along a portion of said distal portion, said second thread not extending to said distal end, said shank distal end defining material transfer means within said second diameter extending from a location adjacent said tip to a location adjacent said second thread such that said material transfer means spans the axial distance between said tip and said second thread;

a coating comprising a resin or an adhesive in a micro-encapsulated form disposed over at least one of the group consisting of said shank distal portion, said shank proximal portion, said first thread and said second thread; and

self-drilling means adjacent said shank tip for drilling into said support structure, said self drilling means creating masonry dust from said masonry support structure, some of said masonry dust being mixed with said coating.

2. (Previously presented) The connection of claim 1, wherein said coating is an adhesive in a microencapsulated form.

3. (Previously presented) The connection of claim 1 further comprising a radially extending wing extending from said shank distal portion.

4. (Previously presented) The connection of claim 1, wherein said self-drilling means comprises a carbide drill point.
5. (Previously presented) The connection of claim 1, wherein said first and second threads are buttress threads.
6. (Previously presented) The connection of claim 1, wherein said first thread defines a first thread crest diameter which is substantially equal over the length of said first thread and said second thread crest diameter is substantially equal over the length of said second thread.
7. (Currently amended) The connection of claim 1, wherein the coating is a cured polymer.
8. (Previously presented) The connection of claim 1 comprising a protuberance extending helically between adjacent convolutions of at least one of said first or second threads.
9. (Previously presented) The connection of claim 8, wherein the protuberance has a crest diameter less than that of adjacent convolutions.
10. (Currently amended) A connection comprising:
 - a masonry support structure and a fastener received in said masonry support structure, said fastener comprising;
 - head means comprising a ~~generally planar~~ engagement surface and drive means for receiving an applied torque;
 - a shank axially extending from said head means at a proximal end to a distal end terminating at a tip comprising self-drilling means for drilling into said support structure, said shank comprising a proximal portion adjacent said shank proximal end, a first intermediate portion adjacent said proximal portion, a second intermediate portion between said first intermediate portion and said tip and a thread extending helically along said intermediate portions; and
 - a resin bead applied to said first intermediate portion.

11. (Previously presented) The connection of claim 10, wherein said bead is composed of a hardener, a resin and nylon powder.
12. (Previously presented) The connection of claim 10, wherein said bead has a generally cardioid-shaped configuration which subtends substantially 360° around the axis of the shank.
13. (Previously presented) The connection of claim 11, wherein said bead is composed of approximately 30% nylon powder by volume.
14. (Previously presented) The connection of claim 11, wherein said bead is composed of a formulation that was made with approximately five milliliters of hardener, five milliliters of resin and five milliliters of nylon powder.
15. (Previously presented) The connection of claim 10 further comprising an adhesive in a microencapsulated form applied to said second intermediate portion.
16. (Previously presented) The connection of claim 10 further comprising a radially extending wing extending from said shank distal portion.
17. (Previously presented) The connection of claim 10, wherein said self-drilling means comprises a carbide drill point.
18. (Previously presented) The connection of claim 10, wherein said thread is a buttress thread.
19. (Previously presented) The connection of claim 10, wherein said thread has a generally uniform axial spacing S and said proximal portion extends axially a distance ranging between 2-3 S and said first intermediate portion extends axially a distance approximately 4-5 S.
20. (Previously presented) A connection comprising:

a masonry support structure and a fastener received in said masonry support structure, said fastener comprising;

a head comprising an engagement surface and drive means for receiving an applied torque;

a shank axially extending from said head at a proximal end to a distal end terminating at a tip, said shank comprising a proximal portion adjacent said shank proximal end, an intermediate portion between said proximal portion and said tip and a thread extending helically along said intermediate portion, said shank tip comprising self-drilling means for drilling into the support structure; and

a bead comprising an epoxy resin applied to said first intermediate portion, so that upon driving said fastener into said structure said thread mechanically engages said structure and said shank bonds with said structure.